

## Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 AID-20 PC-04 DRC-01 /156 W

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R 232208Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5517

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEGUCIGALPA 3985

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HO, ES

SUBJECT: SECOND ROUND OF HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR TALKS END

1. HONDURAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED OCTOBER 18 COMMUNIQUE OF THE MEXICAN COORDINATOR OF THE HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR TALKS. THE COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT THERE WAS AN EXHAUSTIVE STUDY BY THE NEGOTIATORS OF THE MATTERS TO BE TREATED BY THE PEACE TREATY AND THAT FOUR COMMITTEES WERE SET UP TO STUDY THE FOLLOWING TOPICS:

- (A) PEACE, TREATIES AND DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR RELATIONS;
- (B) FREE TRANSIT AND THE CENTRAL AMERICAN COMMON MARKET;
- (C) CLAIMS AND HUMAN RIGHTS; AND
- (D) FRONTIER QUESTIONS.

THE COMMUNIQUE FURTHER STATES THAT THE TALKS WILL RESUME ON NOVEMBER 19.

2. FONMIN BATRES RETURNED TO TEGUCIGALPA ON OCTOBER 20 AND MADE A SHORT STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, BATRES STATED HE IS CONFIDENT THAT AN AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED WITH EL SALVADOR ON DECEMBER 15. HE REMARKED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE BEING CARRIED OUT IN A CALM ATMOSPHERE AND THE RESULTS SO FAR ARE SATISFACTORY. HE

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EMPHASIZED THAT THE IMPORTANT POINT IN THE NEGOTIATIONS

IS TO ACHIEVE DEFINITIVE RESULTS, AND THAT THE NEXT STAGE IN THE TALKS WILL BEGIN NOVEMBER 19 WHEN THE FOUR COMMITTEES WILL RENDER THEIR REPORTS.

3. EL CRONISTA CONTINUED ITS CAMPAGIN OF CRITICIZING THE NEGOTIATIONS WHILE EL DIA CARRIED AN EDITORIAL EXPRESSING PESSIMISM AT THEIR OUTCOME. THE MOST RECENT ISSUE OF THE LIBERAL PARTY'S PUBLICATION STATED THAT HONDURAS' DIPLOMATIC CAPITULATION APPEARED IMMINENT AND CALLED ON THE PEOPLE TO REJECT ANY AGREEMENT THAT INJURES THE NATION. THE OTHER PARTIES HAVE ALSO ISSUED STATEMENTS CALLING ON THE PEOPLE TO BE VIGILANT.

4. RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH POLITICAL AND LABOR LEADERS REVEAL STRONG MEASURE OF PESSIMISM CONCERNING OUTCOME OF NEGOTIATIONS. THEY AGREE THAT FRONTIER QUESTION IS BASIC TO AN OVERALL AGREEMENT BUT ALL EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT QUESTION CAN BE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY.  
SANCHEZ

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <28-Dec-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** SECOND ROUND OF HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR TALKS END  
**TAGS:** PFOR, HO, ES  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005